NO. 7 FREE

BIGFOOT RECORD EDITORIAL

HELLO OUT THERE FELLOW SASQUATCH RESEARCHERS. IN THIS ISSUE YOU ARE GOING TO SEE ARTICLES CONCERNING BIGFOOT FROM CLIFF CROOK OF BIGFOOT CENTRAL. YOU WILL ALSO READ ARTICLES FROM WAYNE KING, DIRECTOR OF THE MICHIGAN / CANADIAN BIG-FOOT INFO CENTER AND FROM LYLE VANN, DIRECTOR OF THE ARIZONA BIGFOOT CENTER. THERE IS ALSO A LETTER TO THE EDITOR FROM PETER BYRNE. IF ANYBODY HAS ENCOUNTERED SASQUATCH, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME OR CALL ME.

THANK YOU,
FROM THE EDITOR,

BILLY GREEN

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PHOTO COURTESY OF RENE DAHINDEN
B.C. BIGFOOT COUNTRY
HARRISON LAKE

CREDIT TO CLIFF CROOK

2-A—MILL CREEK ENTERPRISE, July 9, 1986

CLIFF CROOK provided everything from news clippings to a recording of alleged Sasquatch sounds for a Hollywood movie about the legendary creature. Crews for the Universal Productions film "Harry and the Hendersons" last week concluded five weeks of shooting in the Seattle area. (Photo by Don Kirkpatrick)

Bigfoot expert Cliff Crook leaves imprint on Hollywood movie

By DON KIRKPATRICK

Cliff Crook's 30 years of tracking Bigfoot proved useful to a Hollywood film crew, which has left the Seattle area after five weeks of on-location work for a movie about the legendary creature.

Crook, who lives in the Queensborough neighborhood of south Snohomish County, provided information, news clippings, photographs, artwork, books, plaster casts of footprints, a tape of alleged Bigfoot sounds and other materials for the Universal Productions movie "Harry and the Hendersons."

"He just talked about what a real person who was involved in Sasquatch would talk about and what he would be an expert in," said Linda DeScenna, the movie's set decorator. "He was wonderful. He gave us a lot of stuff from the Bigfoot information center."

Actually, "gave" is not the right word. Crook did not say how much he was paid, but added, "I'm happy."

John Lithgow, Melinda Dillon and Don Ameche will star in the film, which has moved to Los Angeles for the final seven to eight weeks of shooting, DeScenna said. It will be released around Christmas or next summer, she said.

Much of the material Crook provided was used to fashion a "Bigfoot museum" at Pacific Northwest Studios in Seattle.

"We had a number of sources and Cliff was one of the main ones," DeScenna said.

"They spent a long time talking to me about the subject, basically," Crook recalled. "It's going to be based on 'E.T.' — a peaceful character."

Crook and his family received a tour of the set and a promise of getting "goodies" — T-shirts, posters, hats, etc. — once shooting was completed. They already have gotten a few souvenirs, including Bigfoot bumper stickers and windbreakers that say "I Saw Bigfoot" on the back.

"It's kind of fun being a part of it," Crook said. "It's interesting seeing how they do those things."

CROOK, whose telephone number can be found in the white pages under Bigfoot Central / Sasquatch Investigation Reports (it's listed in nine states), thinks the movie will reverse the current trend in reports of Sasquatch sightings.

"One of the reasons I'm excited

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

CREDIT TO PETER BYRNE

ON SHOOTING A SASQUATCH.

There is a popular belief among the sasquatch hunters of the Pacific Northwest that the name of the man who shoots the first of the creatures, bags it and brings it in, will become a household word. Those who support this notion and who assiduously hunt the big hominids with high-powered guns, do so only to give reason and excuse to their pursuit. They call the creatures animals and assure us that being large and hair-covered they simply could not be men. They credit them with violent acts, everything from kidnapping children to tearing people limb from limb. And they state, with absolute conviction, that the only way to ever prove that the creatures exist is to shoot one. Gun it down. Chop it up. Deliver the bits and pieces to the nearest scientific examiner.

We do not know who or what the sasquatch are. We do not know where they came from or how many there are. In fact, even after all these years we still know very little and even the so-called experts among us fit nothing more than the common definition of the word expert...someone who has nothing more to learn.

We do know, however -and of this we are certain- they whatever or whoever they are, they are harmless and inoffensive creatures, with absolutely no historical record of violence or aggression towards man. We also know -and again we are certain- that like our little planet's higher life form, man, they are the only primates to walk upright. We also are cognizant of the fact -from highly credible eye-witness reports- that size and hair covering apart, they look oddly like us, or at the least like a primitive version of us.

More and more people, becoming convinced of the reality of the sasquatch, are becoming aware of the criminality of shooting one simply to prove that they exist. As to the name of the man who "bags" the first one becoming a household word, there is little doubt that this may well be true. A household word that will rank in infamy with that of Lee Harvey Oswald, Sirhan Sirhan and James Earl Ray.

Peter Byrne, F.R.G.S.
Director, The Bigfoot Research Project Hood, 1, (800) BIGFOOT.

10-A—MILL CREEK ENTERPRISE, July 9, 1986

Local man has tracked Bigfoot for 30 years

Continued from Page 1-A

about it, is when it comes out, it's gonna make Bigfoot like a household word," he said. "I'm gonna get reports from all over the place.

"That's what I'm here for — reports. This Sasquatch stuff has been so dead for so long, maybe people will start coming out of the woodwork again."

Crook said he has tracked Sasquatches since 1856, when one of the creatures interrupted a teen-age camping expedition with friends.

"It picked up a German shepherd and threw it right next to our campfire," he recalled. "Nobody I talked to believed my story."

Eventually, Crook became involved with a network of Bigfoot investigators. He works primarily with a Canadian man, Rene Dahinden, co-author of a book entitled "Sasquatch." Together, they travel to locations of Bigfoot sightings to interview witnesses, to look for footprints, to examine disturbed vegetation.

The rest of the time Crook works as a free-lance cartoonist, poster-maker and landscaper, he said. He does other odd jobs, like one he's got right now — designing an eight-foot sculpture of a Sasquatch that will grace the front of a restaurant and gift shop.

"I'm really not tied to any job, never have been," said Crook. "In case I got a call, I can go out on things."

A spare bedroom in his suburban home serves as his office, which is uncluttered but full of Bigfoot evidence and memorabilia. Dominating the room is a display case containing footprint casts, samples of hair and excrement, and a six-pound rock that Crook says a Sasquatch near Saltan threw at him in 1978. A file of tape-recorded interviews with Bigfoot witnesses sits on the display case.

TWO WALLS nearly are covered with pictures and news articles about Sasquatches and about Crook. There also are letters, such as one from a young girl thanking Crook for his help in her Bigfoot research project. In a 1977 letter, then-Gov. Dixy Lee Ray thanks Crook for his interest in passing a Bigfoot-protection law.

"When the necessary proof does exist," Ray writes, "I assure you I will give proper consideration to the matter."

A map of Washington is posted on a third wall. It is stuck with tacks, indicating reported Sasquatch sightings. The most recent report, in central Whatcom County in April, is marked with a black tack. Crook, however, said he could not comment on the case, at his partner's request.

A room also houses a small desk and a bookcase, which books bearing such titles as "The Bigfoot Casebook," "On the Track of the Sasquatch," "Bigfoot: Man, Monster or Myth?" and several editions of "Ripley's Believe it or Not."

Crook said he has seen a Sasquatch "a couple of times" since his 1856 camping trip, when he was 14. But do most people really believe the elusive creature is real?

"It's about half and half," he said. "I think most people are coinciding that there's got to be something out there. A cynic will tell you it doesn't exist because he's never seen one and he's been all over the woods."

Many scientists are "really cynical," said Crook, but "there's no way they can explain away the evidence."

Evidence includes tracks, measuring up to 21 inches long and 10 inches across, and hair strands that have been analyzed as coming from an unknown type of primate.

Crook said he used to get about 10 "solid" Sasquatch reports each year, but now the average is down to about one a year.

"It's been slow, real slow," he said. "Probably because, I think, the people are getting more afraid to report than in the past."

Why?

For one thing, he said, people are afraid a Sasquatch will be shot and killed if it is reported. And, Crook added, people are "fed up with calling in to people who don't believe in their story."

The drop in reports appears to coincide with the May 18, 1980, eruption of Mount St. Helens. But he does not know whether there's any connection.

"We're just using it for a marker," he said. "The reports just started to fade like you wouldn't believe."

In fact, Crook gets many more requests for information than he does reports of sightings, he said. He used to speak to classes at area schools, but he found each presentation led to a deluge of other requests.

"Once you start . . . it's a chain you just can't believe," Crook said. He now has plans to market Bigfoot information kits for $5 to $10.

Many of the requests he gets come from reporters. He recently was interviewed by representatives of a Japanese magazine. And *Sports Illustrated* called him for a story included in its Jan. 6, 1986, issue. He asked to be left out of the story, and said he was glad that he had been.

"They made it sound like everybody who sees one is nuts," he said.

THOUGH BIGFOOT often is thought of as peculiar to the Pacific Northwest, in fact, Crook said, the creature lives all over the world — as the abominable snowman or yeti of the Himalayas, the yowi of Australia or simply the X of Africa.

"All seven continents have Bigfoots," said Crook, although he said he discounts the two sightings in Antarctica of which he is familiar. "It's easy to start seeing things down there."

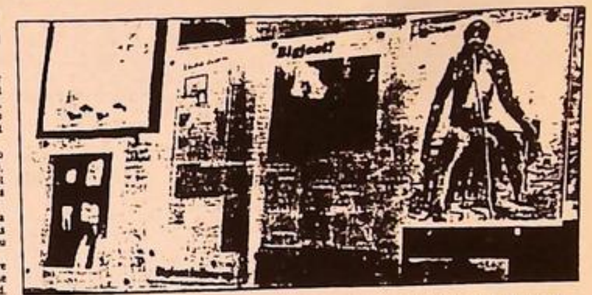
One of Crook's ongoing investigations involves a woman in San Juan County, who says she repeatedly sees a Sasquatch outside her windows after dark.

"There's definitely something going on over there," Crook said. "It's not bears. It could be someone trying to hoax her out.

"Her husband thinks she's getting senile. She's only 46-some years old. I don't know. There is a sign that something's been going through."

One problem that Crook has to deal with, he said, is impostors who fabricate Bigfoot evidence — "jerks," he called them.

"There's so many impostors in this it's incredible. And they come and go."



THE WALLS of Cliff Crook's office in his Queensborough home tell and show what Bigfoot is all about. (Photo by Don Kirkpatrick)

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CREDIT TO LYLE VANN OF THE ARIZONA BIGFOOT CENTER

Paulden man says Bigfoot creatures roam in Arizona

By Richard W. Kimball
REVIEW Reporter

CHINO VALLEY — The legendary creature known as Bigfoot, or Sasquash, also exists in Arizona says Lyle Vann, director of the Arizona Bigfoot Center in Paulden.

Vann said he has often seen Bigfoot creatures while hiking around the rugged country of central and northern Arizona. The animals tend to be reclusive and shy creatures — nocturnal for the most part — and expert at camouflaging themselves.

Vann came into the *Review* office last week with a folder of colored pictures he claims contain the images of Bigfoot, aliens, and flying saucers.

"Bigfoot is very humanlike," he explained. "Each one is a unique individual. Some of them have brown hair, some have black hair, some have white hair, and some have no hair. Some of the big bulls (males) are very identifiable individuals. I saw one with a silver collar. Another with a cape."

He said Bigfoot was first seen in this country by Native Americans around 1811. "The Indians called it Sasquash meaning 'large hairy man.'"

Bigfoot has been seen in every state of the union except Hawaii and Rhode Island, Vann said. "I've been all over the U.S.," he said. "A lot of Bigfoot research is being carried on in California."

Lyle Vann
Director, Arizona Bigfoot Center

Vann believes the Bigfoot creatures are controlled beings used by aliens to mine gold and silver from the earth's crust. Bigfoot and the aliens live inside the earth, he said. "Their world is inside our world."

A former Airborne Ranger, Vann said that once he "poo-pooed" the idea of Bigfoot's existence. "I couldn't believe they existed," he confessed. But after a close encounter with one of the creatures in California, Vann became convinced that the strange beings do exist.

Vann was a little more apprehensive about purpose of the blue-skinned aliens. "I don't quite trust them."

One of the pictures in the folder shows Vann being elevated several feet off the ground. Hidden in the branches of a nearby tree is a strange alien being wearing a hood and holding a black box. A black panther-like animal is lying under a bush next to the tree. Vann claims a force emitted by the black box caused his levitation.

The picture was taken automatically by a camera Vann had mounted on a tripod.

Vann has lived in Paulden since 1984 with his wife Jacqueline. "The reason we moved here was to get out of the hustle and bustle of California," he said. While in California, Vann did motion picture work with Fox Pictures.

"Many people think that Bigfoot smells — that he has a bad smell," Vann said. "That's not the case in Arizona. The reason is because there is not a lot of sulphur in the ground here. In California, there's a lot of sulphur underground and it gets into Bigfoot's coat because Bigfoot lives underground. That is what makes it smell."

The Bigfoot beings are mostly nocturnal. They live in subterranean caves. "The reason the aliens use them for their mining is because they are strong, gentle creatures," Vann explained.

He will not disclose any of the areas of Arizona where he has seen the creatures "because of people carrying guns. They tend to shoot anything they don't understand."

"I believe in what I'm doing," Vann said about his research and investigation. "Some people fish. Some people hunt. I look for Bigfoot with my camera."

He founded the Arizona Bigfoot Center "for people in Arizona. They can get in touch with me if they want to know something about Bigfoot."

Vann invites anyone who has seen an Arizona Bigfoot or people with an interest in the creature to contact him at P.O. Box 412, Paulden, AZ 86334.

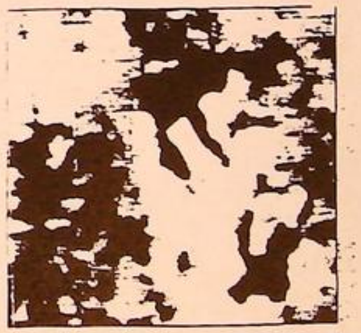


Photo courtesy Arizona Bigfoot Center

BIGFOOT FAMILY. Investigator Lyle Vann took this photo of a Bigfoot family on the mountains of Northern Arizona on April 17, 1988. The large figure at the center top is a massively built male with a shiny black coat, approximately 11 feet tall. The smaller figure below is female. She is10 feet tall, has a brown coat and is carrying a baby in her right arm. The male Bigfoot is entering the female his hand to help her scale a 12-foot ledge.

CREDIT TO WAYNE KING AND THE MICHIGAN / CANADIAN BIGFOOT INFO CENTER

BIGFOOT

One hunter keeps a vigil for a very elusive prey

BY ANN SWEENEY

CARO, Mich. — The hunter lives alone in a doll's house, a white clapboard relic of 1890 Michigan. Inside, there's a closed, off parlor, tea cup and china dolls on Duncan Phyfe tables and open hutches crammed with pretty things. Calico everywhere.

Downstairs, in the fieldstone bowels of the doll's house, in the hunter's lair, another world of office equipment and files crammed with "eyewitness accounts" of the prey. At left is a command post, pounded walls hung with newsprint reports cover the original owl's brown by some pioneer to cool root vegetables. The hunter, very much in charge, sits in a swivel chair — along with a holster and ammo belt for a .357-caliber Magnum, the his desk, a sign reads: "Wayne L. King, director."

King heads the Michigan/Canadian Bigfoot Information Center, a repository and clearing house for sightings of the legendary ape-like creature better known as the Pacific Northwest. But to King, Michigan Bigfoot is a very real presence. And although he can rush his hands over plaster castings of giant foot prints feel the life they represent, then look into a sealed glass ertopantry at a football sized mound of droppings at the creature he collect.

King said he means to track Bigfoot. To find him. And kill him.

* * *

Caro, Mich., is a story book town up M-24 from Oxford, Lapeer and Mayville in the Michigan Thumb. In another century the land was forest primeval, a lumber center with white pine so tall that forests were stripped for seeing masts. But the Great Fire of 1881 ended all that and farming took over. Still, King said, there is a five county swath of dense woods over Huron, Sanilac, Genesee, Lapeer and Tuscola counties. Bigfoot, he said, is there.

In Tuscola County alone — Caro is the county seat — King has compiled information on 27 sightings by credible witnesses from 1977 until three years ago. Then he said, "solid" sightings abruptly stopped not only in Michigan but throughout the world. King said he is "somewhat disturbed" by Bigfoot's silence and wonders if he has gone the mysterious way of the dinosaurs.

So these days there are no night vigils in the forests, no trees turned to unearthly howls. King bides his time in the cellar bunker going over old tape recorded testimony of witnesses for some clue to the beast.

Bigfoot is nomadic, he said, not migratory, so the creature likely is still in the region. And if he is still out there, King is ready.

In addition to the Magnum, there is a high powered rifle, a "bug ear" auditory sensor, 250,000 candlepower Klieg nightlights, high-tech recording systems and movie and photographic equipment. There are four trained "field investigators" ready to join in the hunt — and the kill.

King said contingency plans are in place, even for shooting a Bigfoot carcass over the Canadian border if that's where they get him. A long freezer has been reserved from a rental company and King said his band of merry men "have been told" how to set out up the creature for museum display, wrap him in Visqueen and park him in the freezer.

There is "a Dallas group" waiting to pay six figures for an iced Bigfoot, King said. In addition, King said he has been contacted by an emissary from a foreign government which is also after the carcass.

"Think about it," King said. "It would be as if somebody came across a dinosaur and brought it in. It would be the find of the century." Money? Fame. Scientific acclaim. A place in history. But for King, intense and driven, there's more.

The hunt for Bigfoot "is a personal thing," he said.

* * *

Bigfoot seems to inhabit the world of UFOs and aliens from outer space, Loch Ness Monster. His deeds are chronicled in ghost stories told around campfires. If not universal, the legend of a mysterious hairy giant who inhabits remote areas is well-traveled. In Nepal, he is known as the Yeti or Abominable Snowman. In Russia, he's the Almas. In Canada and the Pacific Northwest, the Sasquatch. Although Bigfoot has been the subject of transparent pranks and hoaxes, he also has been seen, heard, written about and even filmed by credible observers. But for skeptics it's a writ of habeas corpus. Bigfoot has never been captured.

The creature is portrayed by pop science as a huge hairy ape that came over the polar cap from Asia and down into North America across a long ago land bridge, the same route Indians are believed to have traveled. Canadian Indian lore is rife with legends of Sasquatch, and there are early Canadian newspaper accounts of sightings, even kidnappings by the monster, in the 1800s. One source said that since 1818 there have been more than 1,000 reports of Bigfoot sightings in North America.

Purported eyewitness accounts are peppered with fear. There are tales of menacing growls, howls in the night and a smell "between possum urine and dead meat." There seems to be a diabolic link to Bigfoot's presence. Indians believed that madness befell anyone who looked into the eyes of a Sasquatch.

King said the modern-day rash of sightings — and the name "Bigfoot" — began in 1958 at a remote construction site in California when crews arrived one morning to find 250 gallon oil drums buried over a cliff and a flatbed trailer overturned. No one saw the creature that wrecked the havoc, but they left huge tracks in the sand. In 1967 Roger Patterson and Bob Gimlin filmed an ape-like creature striding across a field near Del Norte, Calif. Their experience was the subject of a True magazine article — and an ongoing debate since about the film's authenticity.

King, who said a former state Department of Natural Resources director once "threatened" him with manslaughter charges if he shot a creature that proved to be "half human," said he has no doubt that Bigfoot is beast. Reports that call Bigfoot an evolutionary missing link or some type of primitive man are nonsense, he said.

"This is a very powerful, very cunning animal," King said. "Even with firearms, man is at a disadvantage. We have considered using tranquilizer guns to bring him down, but decided they wouldn't work. You have to be close, and know the animal's weight to determine the dosage."

King believes there is a "Michigan species" of Bigfoot creatures and that there are more than 100 of them. He described the species as larger than the Yeti, smaller than the Sasquatch, weighing 500 to 700 pounds, 7 or 8 feet tall with long grey or black hair.

"It has the upright walk of a gorilla and the lifestyle of a bear," he added.

King said he has had three encounters with Michigan Bigfoot. In 1975, he was called to Kingston, north-

Please see Bigfoot/4M

For doubting Thomases, Wayne King (pictured above) enjoys pulling out his plaster footprints of Bigfoot, one set made at Barryton by Gene Little, another from the Zane Gray family site.

Bigfoot

One hunter keeps a vigil for a very elusive prey

From page 1M

west of Marlette, and saw two animals on the forest's edge at dusk, one — possibly an offspring — much smaller than the other.

"I saw their eyes," he recalled with a shudder. "They were china white." Since he was unarmed, King said he called the state police, but the creatures had gone back into the woods when the car arrived. King said he and a trooper went into woods and were close to a creature but the darkness prevented them from seeing it.

"It was the only time I have known fear. We could hear it breathing. I knew we were gonna be hit. I could feel it coming," he said. "I heard the trooper take the safety off his gun. ... And then there was silence."

In 1979, King said he received a call from Art Kapa of Mayville, a field investigator at that time, whose daughter was playing in the yard near the forest and "saw a Bigfoot unfold from behind a pine tree."

"We kept an all-night vigil that night," King said. "We heard snorts and growls but never saw it."

In 1984, while driving along M-46 at 4:30 a.m. near Enos Park outside of Caro, King said a Bigfoot crossed the highway.

King described other sightings:

■ **1977, Benzie County** — Zane Gray, now sheriff of Benzie County, reported finding 27 tracks at a gorge site near Lake Ann where some construction on family property was proceeding. Less than a week later, more tracks were found on a road close-by.

"There had been sightings in the area and mysterious noises," Gray recalled recently from his Traverse City office. "The tracks were from a flexible foot and they were sunk in the dirt showing considerable weight. At the time, I was open to the possibility of a Bigfoot, but now that all this time has elapsed without finding one, I believe somebody made the tracks.

"But I have no idea how."

■ **1978, Barryton, Mich.** — Wildlife photographer and film producer Gene Little called King to the Hughs swamp. Little was shooting footage of track sightings for a Grand Rapids television station. Local residents had seen the animal and didn't know what it was. Dogs were reportedly terrified. Little, who often shot film for the *Michigan Outdoors* TV program died within the year, but King has a taped account.

Little spoke of tracks that "seemed to mold over rocks and sink 2¼ to 3 inches in moderately hard dirt." He and a big-game hunter with him "didn't have any answer," Little said. But, he added: "I don't see how it can be a hoax."

■ **1979, Clare County** — Nicholas Zurawic and his fiance Abby Matthews, both senior law students at the University of Michigan, reported seeing three huge hairy creatures race across the road ahead of them on U.S. 27, 50 miles north of Midland. The couple now married and living in Oklahoma left a tape recording with King:

"At first I thought they were people, but they were moving so fast I was sure they had to be deer," Zurawic said. "I just couldn't believe what I was seeing. They weren't human."

King said he later checked the fenced median on the highway at the spot and found that it had been broken through.

■ **1981, Fort Custer State Recreation Area** — Several sightings of a "9-foot hairy creature" near the Kalamazoo River, according to the Battle Creek Enquirer. Making the rounds of adjacent military land in a park truck one evening, Bill Kosmider, then a recreation supervisor, and state trooper Paul Uerling from the Hastings Post "saw a huge creature on the frozen surface of a beaver pond" but were unable to get in for a closer look, according to the newspaper report.

Kosmider, now the deputy park director, refused further comment when contacted recently.

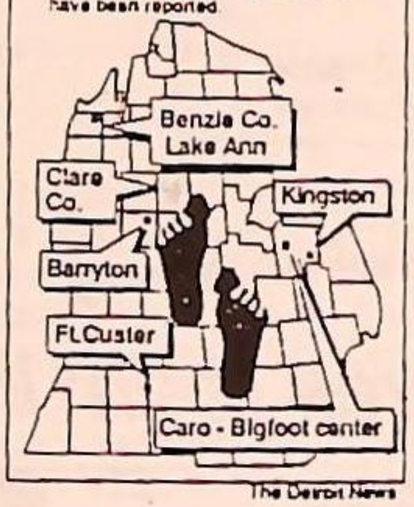
* * *

For doubting Thomases, King enjoys pulling out his plaster footprints, one set made at Barryton by Gene Little, another from the Zane Gray family site. They measure 17½ to 19½ inches long and show an ape-like toed foot with a ball imprint, not the type of forgery made by someone wearing "feet" imprints.

Droppings taken from the Benzie County site now encased in glass were analyzed by a DNR wildlife biologist and were said to be "from no known Michigan animal," King said.

Tracking Bigfoot in Michigan

These are some locations where sightings of Bigfoot or Bigfoot tracks have been reported.



The Detroit News

> "This is a very powerful, very cunning animal (Bigfoot). Even with firearms, man is at a disadvantage."
> **Wayne L. King**

"Do I look like a rational man to you?" Kings asked. It is the question of a man who acts as his own sounding board. His wife died in 1970 in a tragic auto accident, along with her mother and three sisters. King's three daughters are grown, and he works as a press operator at a General Motors plant in Flint. He, too, was once a disbeliever and investigated sightings for three years before opening the center in 1977, he said.

"I manufacture nothing. I sell nothing," King said. "The center is strictly for research."

Yet since his venture into Bigfoot territory, Wayne King's world has changed — inhabited by pranksters (he has debunked five Bigfoot hoaxes), crazies ("I won't investigate in Ohio; they see flying saucers there"), and mugwamp authorities ("The state knows Bigfoot is out there but the public policy is non-commitment.")

Then there are the detractors who put Bigfoot down as a fable and label King a publicity seeker.

When asked about King and his exploits, Tuscola County Undersheriff Paul Megge said: "I refuse to talk to him; I think Bigfoot is a bunch of hogwash. I think it's a big publicity stunt and you people perpetuate it every time you write about it."

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